

## NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION[571]

### Notice of Intended Action

**Twenty-five interested persons, a governmental subdivision, an agency or association of 25 or more persons may demand an oral presentation hereon as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.4(1)“b.”**

**Notice is also given to the public that the Administrative Rules Review Committee may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this proposed action under section 17A.8(6) at a regular or special meeting where the public or interested persons may be heard.**

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code subsection 455A.5(6), the Natural Resource Commission hereby gives Notice of Intended Action to amend Chapter 97, “Common Snipe, Virginia Rail and Sora, Woodcock and Ruffed Grouse Hunting Seasons,” Iowa Administrative Code.

The proposed amendments add mourning doves to the species covered in Chapter 97 and set the season dates, bag and possession limits, shooting hours, and areas open to hunting mourning doves.

Any interested person may make written suggestions or comments on the proposed amendments on or before May 24, 2011. Written comments may be directed to Willie Suchy of the Wildlife Bureau at the Wallace State Office Building, 502 E. 9th Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0034; by E-mail at [wildlife@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:wildlife@dnr.iowa.gov); or by fax at (515)281-6794. Persons who wish to convey their comments orally may contact the Wildlife Bureau by telephone at (515)281-5034 or by visiting the fourth floor of the Wallace State Office Building during regular business hours.

There will be a public hearing on May 24, 2011, at 1 p.m. in the Auditorium on the second floor of the Wallace State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa. At the public hearing, persons may present their views either orally or in writing. Participants will be asked to give their names and addresses for the record and to confine their remarks to the subject of the amendments.

Any persons who intend to attend the public hearing and have special requirements, such as those related to hearing or mobility impairments, should contact the Department of Natural Resources and request specific accommodations.

The Department maintains that the new dove season will have a positive impact on jobs in Iowa. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service conducted a National Hunting and Fishing Survey in Iowa in 2006 and found that, on average, Iowa hunters spent \$104/day hunting upland game. Surveys conducted by Southwick & Associates in surrounding states show a range of 15,000 to 20,000 dove hunters, each of whom hunts doves an average of 3.3 days a year. These data, when transferred to Iowa, would show a potential economic impact of \$5.1 to \$6.8 million. Additionally, Southwick & Associates’ 2006 survey from surrounding states shows a trend of 1 job created for every 733 days of hunting. Again, these figures when transferred to Iowa would show a potential for 67.5 to 90 new jobs.

These amendments are intended to implement Iowa Code sections 481A.38 and 481A.39 and section 481A.48 as amended by 2011 Iowa Acts, Senate File 464.

The following amendments are proposed.

ITEM 1. Amend **571—Chapter 97**, title, as follows:

COMMON SNIPE, VIRGINIA RAIL AND SORA, WOODCOCK,  
~~AND RUFFED GROUSE,~~ AND MOURNING DOVE HUNTING SEASONS

ITEM 2. Adopt the following new rule 571—97.6(481A):

**571—97.6(481A) Mourning dove season.** Open season for hunting mourning doves shall begin on September 1 and continue for 70 consecutive days. Shooting hours shall be from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset each day. Daily bag limit is 15; possession limit is 30. The entire state is open.